

Nocturne for Voices One & Two
C. Murray (2020,2025)

Nocturne for Voices One and Two

Voice One:

Sea pummels shore,
wind and reed knock trees, winter trees' wooded music is not green-sapped,

But yet, yet but, and alone. The moon is all?

Soul whispers reed (...)

Soul troubles the wing,

soul gathers in the dewy morning and the heart it ties to.

Quiet!

Voice Two

Moon is not all, while the restive sea and you separate.

Silence, Quiet.

Quiet, Peace!

Voice One:

And sleep now?

For, bird skims dark waters bird skims silver streams
streams encroach on the bay stream sieves the sand

And sleep now –

In silence, peaceably.

The moon is all It lights a trail

Voice One:

It is with the voice of longing that you speak, close your eyes that mock the moon.

Close your eyes that tremble on the reed Close your eyes that discern the wing

Not distance,

Not distance from –

Voice Two:

Separated Separating

Voice One and Voice Two:

We do not meet in our bodies meet.

Voice Two:

The moon is all. It is an emptiness.

The moon is all, The moon is all.

Voice One:

And sleep, and dream with?

Or a wisp of memory to wake a nothing from cold sun,

What now, sleep? Not grieve.

Voice Two:

Quiet!

Soul whispers reed (...)

Soul troubles the wing,

soul gathers in the dewy morning and the heart it ties to.

Quiet!

Voice One & Voice Two

Moon is grey, a ship,
the bay —
Silver-stream of thistle, of reed, tumble of mountain.

To dream with you, to dream with you.

again-she-sleeps.

Quiet, peace.

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